THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
PUBLISHED DAILY BY
THE PITTSBURGH NEWSPAPER AND PRINTING COMPANY,
Office, 76 Fifth Street
(OPPOSITE THE POSTOFFICE.)
O. D. BRIGHAM.....EDITOR
S. D. THOMPSON.....BUSINESS MANAGER.
TERMS OF THE DAILY:
Single Copy.....3 Cents.
Delivered by Carrier, (per week.).....25 Cents
Mail Subscribers, (per year).....$10 00
Address
THE COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

CITY ITEMS.

Musical Institute.
At the Beaver Female Seminary, Prof. E. Ambuhl educated at Geneva, Switzerland, Principal, opens January 2d, 1866. Address Rev. R. T. Taylor.

The Grover & Baker
Is the simplest, cheapest and best in use.

Pioneer Yeast Powder.
Manufactured by Taylor & Young, 186 front street, New York. The delightful muffins and corn bread at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, are made with this Pioneer Yeast Powder.

Fathers, Brothers and Sons,
Should get a Grover & Baker for a Christmas gift.

Purviance's Card Photographs,
Are taken in any weather, in all the various popular styles, singly or by the dozen, at 25 cents each. We guarantee satisfaction. Gallery corner Fifth and Market streets.

A Grover & Baker
Is the most appropriate Holiday gift.

Get None
But a Grover & Baker for a New Year's gift.

Pure Liquors
Are medicinal. Common liquors are poisonous. So when you want a liquor for medicinal use you will naturally go to the place where you are most likely to get a pure article. You are fully convinced, if you have ever purchased the article there, that that place is McClarran & McKennan's Drug Store, 85 Market street. They make it their business to select none but the finest that can be obtained. Try them and be convinced.

A Grover & Baker
Will make the home cheerful and happy.

Any of Our Readers
Who wish to know where they can purchase a pure article of white lead, flaxseed oil, sperm oil, lard oil, or any other oils, we would say, go to Fleming's Drug Store, No. 84 Market street, where you can get a better article for less money than any other place in the city. Remember the place.

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Is a health restorer to broken down needle-women.

None but a Grover & Baker
Will answer for all family purposes.

Surprising.
It is actually surprising how soon our people have learned to go "to that building on the corner of Wood and Diamond alley" when they want anything choice. Dyspepsia Cure. It certainly acts like magic, for it will cure the very worst cases of dyspepsia and enable the patient, who has lived for years upon Graham bread and the plainest food, to eat anything he chooses without fear of distress. It is considered the most valuable medicine known for all diseases of the stomach and bowels. Sole agent for Pittsburgh, Joseph Fleming, Druggist, No. 84 Market street.

No Sewing Machine
Will embroider but a Grover & Baker.

Saturday Morning Leader,
Ready to-morrow morning.
Read the Leader.
1st 1-86 M-L ready Saturday, December 30.
First Issue Saturday Morning Leader ready Saturday, December 30, 1865.
Buy the Leader.
Fashionable Gossip, see Leader, ready to-morrow morning.
Saturday Morning Edition of Leader ready to-morrow morning.

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TERMS:
Single copies.....3 cents.
Delivered by carriers, (per week).....25 cents.
Mail subscribers, (per year).....$10 00
Address
THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

Employment for Veterans.

A circular suggesting a public meeting for the purpose of considering the best means of procuring employment for disabled soldiers and sailors, and of forming a permanent military association for that object, seems to have only just got into print, although dated six weeks ago. It is addressed "to the officers and men of the army and the navy of the United States who have served in the late war," and is signed by Gens. Grant, Dix, Parke, Butterfield, Heintzelman and Anderson, Commodores Bell, Palmer and Selfridge and other naval and military officers. No definite time and place are mentioned for the meeting suggested. The following is the most important paragraph of the document:

"The great number of discharged and disabled soldiers and sailors without employment causes, and must always cause, much distress. The person who has in any way participated in their dangers and sufferings, it has been the duty and privilege of officers while in service to provide for the wants of their men, and now that both have returned from the field, if any of them again encounter those dangers, the duty and privilege, in a measure, remain. It is also an unhappy fact that many of our officers are rendered incapacitated for their former occupations by wounds, and that they are undergoing pecuniary privations, and needing assistance originally. During the war the duty of providing for all such sufferers devolved upon the loyal men and by patriotic citizens; but now that the war is over it is an honorable duty devolving upon us, their fellow-soldiers."

Claims for Damages in the Service.

An important principle concerning the settlement of claims for money and valuables lost in the service through the casualties of war, or escape from the hands of the enemy is enunciated by the House Committee on Claims, Hon. Columbus Delano, of Ohio, chairman. The case in point is the claim of one W. J. Morris, a Union refugee, who, while traveling from Texas to Missouri, was robbed of eight hundred dollars in gold by guerillas. He subsequently served as a Union scout or spy, under Generals Curtis, Grant and Dodge, receiving one hundred dollars per month. Afterward he raised and commanded a company of negroes, and was taken prisoner near Atlanta. He paid a rebel officer seven hundred dollars to secure his release. General Grant indorsed the justice of the claim he paid, but the committee, after deliberation, made the following report:

"The committee are of opinion that neither claim presents any sufficient ground for relief. The first, if allowed, will afford a precedent for paying the claims presented by the depredations and robberies of guerrillas during the war; and the second, if allowed, will furnish an example for reimbursing prisoners of war for all sums expended in order to procure their release, which will embrace officers and privates. These rules, if adopted, may lead to the expenditure of immense sums, and possibly to the actual payment of a large sum for the ransom of an officer or private, which may amount to considerably more than the services of the prisoner were worth to the Government.

"The committee therefore recommend that the claim of W. J. Morris be rejected."

A Cotton Estimate.

Messrs. Neill, Brothers & Co., of New Orleans, have completed a personal investigation of the cotton States. The Atlantic States having been examined by one member of the firm, Middle and Western Tennessee, North Alabama and North and Central Mississippi by another, and Arkansas, Louisiana, Red River and Texas by a third. Their conclusions as to the quantity of cotton remaining in the country at the end of the war, and the crop of the present year, were as follows:

	Old.	New.	Total.
North and South Carolina...	90,000	20,000	110,000
Georgia and Florida.....	200,000	30,000	230,000
Mobile.....	200,000	40,000	240,000
New Orleans.....	640,000	60,000	700,000
Texas.....	90,000	100,000	190,000
Memphis, Nashville, New York, and all North not already counted.....	170,000	150,000	320,000
	1,390,000	400,000	2,800,000
	Delivered to this date.	Estimated from interior.	
North and South Carolina...	50,000	50,000	
Georgia and Florida.....	90,000	241,000	
Mobile.....	222,000	178,000	
New Orleans.....	300,000	350,000	
Texas.....	72,000	118,000	
Of which received at New York...	174,000	114,000	
Estimated at other points*...	90,000		
	1,000,000	950,000	

*Say, stock at Memphis, (35,000,) Nashville, (5,000,) receipts at Richmond, (30,000,) Cincinnati and deliveries to spinners at Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boston, and throughout the West. Their estimate of the total of old and new is therefore 2,000,000 to 2,100,000 bales. A very good deal of the old cotton is of course in very bad condition, but the quantity of the best quality is thought to be no more than 100,000 bales, although considerably more than this may have to be sold as damaged.

A Fine Speech by Senator Wilson.

The speech made by Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts, on the last day Congress sat, was a far more timely, practical and able effort than that of his colleague, Senator Sumner. While not at all "radical" as determined, it was not deliberately offensive to anybody. These good speeches are so terribly mutilated by telegraph, that I am tempted to send you an extract. Said Mr. Wilson:

"I know there has been a studied and systematic attempt to separate the President of the United States from the great party that elected him. If any entertain such fears, I advise them to dismiss those fears at once. The fame of the President is to rest upon the great fact that he shall complete the work which Abraham Lincoln commenced—the work of restoring a broken union, enfranchising a race, and preserving the cause of liberty in America.

I have an undoubting faith that if we enact a needful legislation to secure the great liberties of all men, and bring back the rebel States to the Union it will receive the sanction and approval of the Executive.

"I say to the rebels, 'We do not want to degrade you: we resisted for twenty years your aggressive policy for slavery and for barbarism ideas; you plunged us into the fire and blood of civil war to perpetuate slavery in christian and republican America; we met you in battle and you fought it bravely, but you were defeated, crushed, annihilated, ground to powder; not a flag of yours waves between the Rio Grande and the Canada; not a soldier bears a rebel bayonet on the continent; we do not seek your lives or your blood, and you may put but little property left for us to seize if we would. All we ask is, and I want every rebel and every rebel sympathizer to understand, that the loyal men of this Nation have sworn in, they have written it on the lids of their Bibles, they have engraved it on their door posts, that these eight millions of slaves shall be free indeed, not serfs, not slaves, and that no black laws nor unfriendly legislation shall linger on the statute book of any commonwealth in America. You do not know the men who have fought this battle for the country and for liberty, if you suppose they are to be over, and that now all can be tempted for the benefit of men who have linked their names forever with the cause of human slavery on this continent, and some of them with the cause of the rebellion.

"The Joint Committee we have appointed and to whom we have referred these great measures, will, I am sure, act wisely. They will see to it that they fully understand the exact condition of every rebel State before they will report proper measures—what the needs of the country demand Congress will pass before the President will sign them, and at no distant day those vacant seats will be filled, and rebel by men who will support the cause of our free country, and the cause of liberty in America."

VOL. III. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 29, 1865. NO. 93.

Pittsburgh Commercial.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

Movements of Sec'y M'Culloch.

Loan Offered by National Banks.

THE NEW YORK COLLECTORSHIP.

British Detectives After the Fenians.

Special dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, December 28.

Secretary McCulloch
Is in conference to-day with Senator Fessenden, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and Representative Hooper, of the Ways and Means Committee. The Secretary is preparing a bill to carry out the suggestions contained in his report. The measure will be submitted to Congress as soon as they assemble, and immediate action taken thereon, as the necessities of the Treasury are absolute.

The Offer of the National Banks.
Made some days ago, to temporarily loan the Secretary of the Treasury one hundred million dollars, will not, it is stated, be accepted by that officer. He will probably adopt the usual mode of obtaining loans.

The New York Collectorship.
When Secretary McCulloch was in New York, the merchants and business men generally urged upon him the propriety of making the appointment or Collector for New York at once. Since his return, after conferring with the President, it has been decided to postpone the matter for a few weeks. The President seems to be in no hurry to fill any of the leading appointments North or West. The Secretary has notified Mr. Van Dyke, Assistant Treasurer of New York, and who was strongly supported for the Collectorship, that he could not dispense with his services as Assistant Treasurer. Senators Morgan, Raymond and others, who recently indorsed him, are now casting about for another candidate. Letters are pouring in from the bankers and merchants of New York in behalf of Mr. Smyth, President of the Central National Bank.

British Detectives
Are here, making diligent inquiry respecting the Fenian movement. They allege that they have some important information bearing upon the matter, and that disclosures will shortly be made which will be very damaging to certain parties.

Decision by the Paymaster General.—Troops to be Paid.—Major Riley Cashiered.—Information Wanted.—The Christmas Riot at Alexandria, Va., &c., &c.

WASHINGTON, December 28.—It was recently decided by the Paymaster General's Department that provost marshals and other members of the Bureau of Refugees, who had been honorably discharged to the three months' pay proper under the act of March 3d, 1865, for to traveling allowances to their homes.

Papers are being prepared at the Paymaster General's Department for the payment of troops in each military department. About $20,000,000 will be required for payments in this vicinity. A large number of regular army and veteran reserve officers have been absorbed by the Freedmen's Bureau, and sent off South to relieve civilians there.

Brevet Major Riley, of the Fourth United States Artillery, one of the participants in the Black Jack and Loss Indian massacres, has been cashiered.

Information is desired by the War Department of the names and residence of the twenty-seven soldiers belonging to what was known among the troops as the foreign legion, who had been incarcerated at or about the time of the execution of seven Union soldiers by order of the rebel General Mercer, at Savannah, in December, 1864, so that those soldiers as may be reached by this paragraph, are requested to communicate with the Judge Advocate General at Washington, giving names and residences, together with such information as they may possess in regard to the whereabouts of the remainder.

General Augur, commanding the Department of Washington, has ordered Lieut. Col. Eyre, in command of the Alexandria Provost Guard, who was concerned in the riots in that city on Christmas day, and not to release any persons arrested on the day named, or the 27th, except by order, to refer all such cases to the department headquarters.

Latest Mexican News.

Imperial Troops Again Occupy the City of Chihuahua.

REPUBLICANS DEFEATED IN THE INTERIOR.

Gen. Escobeda Routed Near Monterey.

Liberal Account of the Monterey Affair.

NEW YORK, December 28.—Advices from Vera Cruz to 16th, by way of Havana, are received. It was reported that the Imperialtroops had again occupied the city of Chihuahua, and that they were also in possession of Piedras Negros. A number of accounts of additional defeats of the Republicans in the interior are given. The most important is one announcing that the siege of Monterey, which had been attacked some distance from Monterey, and utterly routed, and that Escobeda himself had escaped with an escort of only twenty men.

From Republican sources we have General Escobeda's report of recent engagements between his own and Imperial troops at Monterey, presenting a strong contrast to the Imperialist accounts heretofore received. General Escobeda claims that he drove Maximilian's men out of the city, and that he subsequently held it against a strong night attack, inflicting severe loss upon the enemy in killed, wounded and prisoners, while his own casualities were very light.

The Empress Charlotte was to return to the capital from Yucatan in the course of the present month.

SUFFERING IN ARKANSAS.

Ten Thousand People in Need of Food, Shelter and Clothing.

NEW YORK, December 28.—The American Union Commission in this city has received a letter from its agent at Little Rock, Arkansas, which says at least ten thousand persons are in immediate and pressing need of food, shelter, clothing, and the necessaries of life, and it is feared many will perish during the winter. Considerable emigration is finding its way to Arkansas.

IMPORTANT HABEAS CORPUS CASE,

A Deserter and Spy Remanded for Trial by a Military Commission.

PHILADELPHIA, December 28.—A special dispatch from Baltimore to the *Evening Telegraph* says: Judge Giles, in the United States District Court, this morning, had up the important *habeas corpus* case of Ralph Abercrombie, who is held by General Wood under charges of desertion, spying, and and with desertion to the enemy, and also with giving testimony before a rebel court martial in Richmond, on which testimony Captain Beaton, of the United States army, was wrongfully convicted and executed. Judge Giles decided in favor of the military authority, remanding him back to custody for military trial. As he belonged to the United States service, he could not set aside the *habeas corpus*. Abercrombie will soon be tried by military court martial. He was not in the old United States army. The court martial, of which General Fessenden is president, and Colonel Bingham, judge advocate, adjourned one day, having disposed of the important trial of private Thos. Murphy. A new court martial will probably soon be formed to try Abercrombie.

FROM ST. THOMAS.

Soulouque—Cholera Raging in Guadaloupe—Ports of Porto Rico Closed by Spain—French Troops for Maximilian.

NEW YORK, December 28.—News from St. Thomas to the 21st inst. The ex-Emperor Soulouque, of Hayti, has obtained permission to reside in the island of Curacoa, and is about to leave St. Thomas.

The cholera was still raging on the island of Guadaloupe, with considerable severity.

The royal decree of Spain declaring the ports of the island of Porto Rico have been closed to all importations, though open to all exportations.

French vessels passing St. Thomas for Vera Cruz carry large numbers of French troops, sent to reinforce the Imperialists in Mexico.

FROM JAMAICA.

Gov. Eyre's Message to the Assembly.

NEW YORK, December 28.—News to the 15th of December has been received. On the 13th, Governor Eyre transmitted to the Colonial Assembly a message, in which it was stated that the home authorities had intimated that it was necessary to preserve tranquility on the Island, they would dissolve the Colonial and Constitutional Government, and inaugurate a stronger one. The Governor recommended that the Assembly so far rescind and modify the late decrees as to leave the home government perfectly free in deciding upon the character of the proposed administrative machinery by which to conduct the business of this country. The recommendation met with an indignant reception, and was ordered to lie on the table.

From Texas.

NEW YORK, December 28.—The *Tribune's* letter from Galveston, says large quantities of goods are being sold at auction at very low rates. The market is largely overstocked. At most points in the interior specie is almost the only kind of currency in use. In Galveston and other cities, specie is demanded for rents, freight and coal sales. The Second and Tenth Illinois cavalry have taken steamers for New Orleans on their way North.

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

A. H. Crosby, of the Chicago Opera House, failed on Wednesday. His liabilities are nearly half a million of dollars. The Opera House is to be sold under a trust deed, March 5, 1866.

Secretary McCulloch denies that he wishes or needs a loan of $100,000,000, aside from the regular revenues of the Government, as has been currently reported.

The head quarters of the Department of Tennessee has been transferred from Knoxville to Memphis.

The Secretary of War has issued an order forbidding the examination of any non-commissioned officer of the regular army for appointment to brevet-lieutenant who has not served at least two years in the regular army.

The *World's* Washington special says: The Secretary of State has directed that the United States authorities keep a vigilant watch on all vessels sailing for Mexican ports, and to seize all contraband articles. Some facts will shortly be made public showing up the matter more definitely.

The Secretary of the Treasury and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue have adopted new regulations relative to drawbacks upon the shipments to the British Provinces, in case goods are to be shipped from a port of transfer through a frontier port to any of the British Provinces. When the drawback claimed on any one shipment does not exceed fifty dollars the exporter will file his entry in triplicate at the Custom House at the port of exportation, one of which entries will be transmitted to the Collector, at the frontier post, through which the goods are to pass, and he will examine the packages to ascertain if they agree in all respects with those described in the entry. If the packages agree the officer will permit them to be sent forward to their destination, and will execute a certificate that the packages of merchandise have been duly transported and entered for exportation. The exporter will proceed in preparing the balance of his papers in accordance with the general instructions, filling each of the forms to suit the altered circumstances of the case. The bond will be cancelled if the exporter produce within ninety days from date thereof a certificate of the collector or other chief revenue officer of the Canadian or other provincial ports that the goods, described as imported into the province, were duly entered at the Custom House, and that the duties imposed by the law in force in the province have been paid or secured. Merchandise for exportation with the benefit of the drawback under the Internal Revenue law, may be forwarded to these frontier ports, through which imported merchandise may be exported, consequently, with lawful regulation, and no other, if the merchandise be shipped directly by sea from the port of exportation, or if shipped direct from a frontier port to a port in the British provinces, the regulations prescribed in the case of goods shipped in bond from, dated May 1st, 1865, will be observed. No part of the drawback will be paid on any one shipment that exceeds the sum of fifty dollars, a Consul's certificate will be required, in addition to the certificate of the ship's revenue officers, for the cancellation of the bonds. In all cases these regulations will be enforced on and after the 1st of January, 1866.

General Wm. S. Streng, Inspector General on General Howard's staff, reports affairs in the interior of Texas in a deplorable condition, much destitution existing among the blacks and whites.

General Augur has directed a thorough investigation of the Christmas riot at Alexandria, and has ordered the commanding officer at that place to arrest the ringleaders, and bring charges to the demand of the civil authorities, but to refer all such demands to the commanding officer of the Department.

The Montreal *Witness* says of the act prohibiting the importation of cattle into the United States, on account of the kinderpest, that "the effect on Canada will be practically very little, inasmuch as we have, according to all accounts, sold off our stock unusually close. We have not, in fact, the fear of losing restrictedly, and the high prices of last autumn, made Canada sell nearly the whole of her cattle, and the result will be a fall in prices took place, and more than all not disposable cattle before this prohibitory act by Congress, was passed. Our farmers will be much more likely to import than export cattle."

Nine-tenths of all the National Banks throughout the country have signified to Comptroller Clarke their hearty concurrence in his proposition to Congress for the removal of the Currency Bureau to New York. It is urged as an argument in favor of the measure that the charges of the express companies between this city and New York on the transfer of the new National bank notes and bonds during the past year amounted to $250,000, of which sum the government would have been cheated, and the tax banks the balance.

The receipts from customs at the ports of New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore, during the week ending 16th of December, amounted, in the aggregate, to over two and a half millions in gold.

Escape of a White Boy from the Indians—A Story of Captivity.

The St. Louis *Democrat* says: Lieutenant Thomas E. Sadler, of the Second Regiment Cavalry, communicates the following deeply interesting statement from Mound Station, Colorado Territory; "On the 27th of November, 1865, a small boy, supposed to be about twelve years of age, of ruddy dark complexion, black hair and black eyes, came into a ranche near Mound Station of the overland stage line running from Atchison, Kansas, to Denver City, Colorado, about one hundred and seventy miles east of Denver. He could speak very little English, but by signs could make himself understood. I being in command of the military at Mound Station, on hearing of his arrival, immediately brought him to Denver. He is now here, and is learning to talk very fast. He informs me that the Sioux Indians have held him captive for many years, but he does not know many. He don't know anything about his name, but remembers he was taken by the Indians at the time of his capture. He neither knows his name or where he was captured. He left the Indians about a month ago, about two miles south of this place on the Republican river three thousand in number. He nicely made his escape from the Indians, and was only to death the first night, he was then compelled to take it about for three days, arriving at the ranche in a starving condition. He says that he had to eat after leaving the Indians until he arrived at the ranche, the only creature that he found dead, and a piece of mule. He says the Sioux Indians have two white women and several negroes captive now. He is a good-looking and intelligent youth."

DECREASE OF CRIME IN NASHVILLE.—A Nashville letter says: "For some weeks past there was a marked diminution in the amount of crime committed in this city and vicinity. This is owing, doubtless, to the more efficient police system which has been organized, and the determination to visit the heaviest penalties of the law upon offenders. Many bands of ruffians have gone to try their fortunes in other fields. In the country generally, there is a gradual return to the condition of order and security prevailing before the war. Travel through the interior is for the most part entirely safe, and business is fast resuming its normal channels. Among farmers, arrangements for the ensuing crop are being made, looking to a large yield. So far as my information extends, the freedmen have, for the most part, made arrangements of some kind for the present year, usually, where they could do so, preferred leasing or renting lands, and controlling their own labor. In the city of Nashville, they generally chosen to hire laborers to build their lands. Some localities exist where the landowners have generally preferred to enter into new agreements with their former slaves, but the impossibility of procuring other laborers has generally brought them to terms. Where the whites have hesitated to employ freedmen, the latter have usually been idle. The freedmen, therefore, look upon as an evidence that the negro will not work."

LITTLE CONVENIENCES IN AND AROUND THE HOUSE.—Few persons are aware of the number of steps wasted, and labor lost or misapplied, for want of sundry little conveniences, easily constructed. How much mud and dirt might be kept out by simply nailing the blade of an old hoe or shovel upon the door step. Any one who if no better one can be afforded. Then in the entry or shed a husk or other mat, braided some evening, might receive any dirt not scraped off. But better still, lay plank, brick, paving, or flat stones about the door, and to the outbuildings, so as to form a continuous pathway. Instead of going out of doors to the cistern a dozen times a day to get water, a little expense would bring it direct to the house or shed. So with the waste water from the house which could easily be conducted by a drain to the ice or wood drain, direct from the sink. The coal bin, too, is often ill contrived and too far off, requiring too much labor to fill it. Study convenience in this respect, having a hole at the bottom to draw from, a shelving board on the inside, leveling the coal from the crowding through. The wood and kindlings should also be under cover and handy. Sundry other things will suggest themselves to every householder who carefully "examines the situation" with an eye to saving the steps and labor of the incumbent. The department of the interior, and who have none too easy a life at the best. Provide them with the best conveniences, washing and wringing-machines to facilitate their operations, also a sausage cutter and an apple-parer, both of which are handy in log-rolling and mince pie bees.

ST. DOMINGO AFFAIRS.—All has been quiet in this fertile island since the Spaniards left, logwood and mahogany are coming in in small lots, and there is an order for five thousand gallons of honey from a New York parties and for logs of lignum vitæ. On examination of the country shows that wherever the Spanish soldiers came across the farm of an American they set it they devastated it, thoroughly, with peculiar spite. Some Southern secessionists, a New York dentist seeking health and rest, several flourishing American planters, were among the sufferers. American mining property is now open for the first time since the Republic seized it in 1861. The British Consul is estimating British losses, with a view to demanding reparation, although their losses are not a fourth part of ours.

NEW YEAR'S AT THE WHITE HOUSE.—Arrangements are being made for the New Year's reception of the President. A new covering for the carpet in the East Room has been procured, and the master mechanic was at the Executive Mansion on Tuesday morning for the purpose of commencing the erection of a platform from the North window of the East Room to the pavement, so as to enable the visitors to pass through the apartments without blocking up the passage. It has become a necessity for the private apartments of the President's family have arrived, and it is expected that the curtains for the East Room will be received in time for the reception.

PROTEST AGAINST MAXIMILIAN.—The new American Minister appointed to the Mexican Republic is a distinct intimation that while the President of the United States may not favor the forcible expulsion of the French army from Mexico, he sternly regards its presence there as a violation of international friendship, if not a challenge of solemn admonitions. Of course, Mr. Campbell, the new Minister, will not go to the city of Mexico, where Maximilian holds the city of Mexico, where Maximilian holds the city, but will seek Juarez, the President of the Republic, wherever he is to be found.

THE CENTENARY OF AMERICAN METHODISM.

1866 to be Devoted to Service and Contributions—The Order of the General Conference—The Growth of Methodism—The Order for the Centenary—Two Millions Wanted—Order of the Services—What is to be Done with the Money.

Methodists in one place are Methodists in all places. They belong to the Episcopal church method ized. It was proposed by the General Conference of 1864 to celebrate the Centenary of American Methodism. The Board of Bishops appointed twelve traveling preachers and twelve laymen, with their own Board, to carry the designs of the Conference into effect.

The foundation of Methodism was laid in this country in October, 1768, in recklessness and little promise of success. It has swollen to gigantic proportions, and out-stripped all its fellow churches in the land. Methodists are a well-disciplined army, from the commanding generals down to the smallest squad. They follow the same flag; keep step to the same music; observe the same manual; are governed by the same discipline, and have the same end in view.

The centenary is to be celebrated by them simultaneously everywhere throughout the length and breadth of the land by special religious services and liberal thank offerings; the offerings to be devoted to some great monumental purpose and for local objects. Each annual Conference is to have a memorial sermon delivered before its own body some time preceding October, 1866, and the Bishops ask a donation of not less than $2,000,000 to carry out the great purposes they have in view.

The founder of Methodism was the Rev. John Wesley, A. M., one of a family of nineteen children, and descended from a stock famous for independence and love of liberty. His grandfather was four times in prison for the crime of preaching the Gospel to the poor without the permission of the beadle and justice. His means of support were taken from his family by the heavy fines he was compelled to pay, and his life was shortened by the severity of his imprisonment. Wesley's father was a bold preacher, striking his heaviest blows at the sins of his age. His fidelity cost him his life. Merchants, peasants, offended with his bold attacks on their vices, fired his house. One man stood on the shoulders of another and pulled John out of the burning building just as the roof fell in. This incident deeply impressed the mind of the child, and was never forgotten. When Wesley's income was called a year, he lived on £28 and gave away the rest. When he died, he gave away £30, and all he was then worth, which was but £1. By preaching, publishing his own books, and editing a monthly journal, he wrote with a trembling hand: "For upward of eighty-six years I have kept my accounts exactly. I will not attempt it any longer."

In 1774 the Rev. George Whitfield joined the Wesleys. He was then in the prime of his powers. His audiences were from 20,000 to 30,000 strong, and were often counted by the acre, and were equally divided in their favor. He was the greatest preacher of Great Britain. Hume and Franklin would go out of their way to hear him. Westerfield used for him his own chapel. Actors resorted to his preaching to study the mood of their audiences. Garrick declared he heard a mile off, the singing of his congregation two miles. He was admitted where Wesley could not go. He visited the prisons of Europe and made no seceders, and admitted in the pulpits from which Wesley, as an Armenian, was excluded. He included in his ministrations the negro slaves of the South. He took to the fields and preached to vast congregations. The world taught from Whitfield to Wesley, and Wesley taught from Wesley to Whitfield. Whitfield crossed the Atlantic thirteen times, and passed from one end of the country to the other seventeen times. The pulpits of Boston were closed against him, and he preached on the Common. Harvard College "scouted" him, and he preached, and "Nassau Hall" received Methodist baptism at its birth. Dartmouth followed. Princeton, Yale and Brown, all fell to the British Methodists, and bears the name as one of their land, "Who wore a coronet and prayed." Whitfield was the second founder and founding of the Presbyterian church in Virginia. Tie baptists of Virginia, south and southwest, laughed at the "new lights" and "shouters," the Free Will Baptists of the United States was completely under the influence of Whitfield's last week of his ministry in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, preaching every night in the church and parsonage, and at night the stars fell. Early on Saturday he rode to Exeter and preached his last sermon in South Parish grounds to an audience of thousands. He roared, as he always did on the afternoon of the same day, too feeble to preach. He died at Newburyport, on the 30th of September, 1865, a small boy, supposed to be about twelve years of age, of ruddy dark complexion, black hair and black eyes, came into a ranche near Mound Station of the overland stage line running from Atchison, Kansas, to Denver City, Colorado, about one hundred and seventy miles east of Denver. He could speak very little English, but by signs could make himself understood. I being in command of the military at Mound Station, on hearing of his arrival, immediately brought him to Denver. He is now here, and is learning to talk very fast. He informs me that the Sioux Indians have held him captive for many years, but he does not know many. He don't know anything about his name, but remembers he was taken by the Indians at the time of his capture. He neither knows his name or where he was captured. He left the Indians about a month ago, about two miles south of this place on the Republican river three thousand in number. He nicely made his escape from the Indians, and was only to death the first night, he was then compelled to take it about for three days, arriving at the ranche in a starving condition. He says that he had to eat after leaving the Indians until he arrived at the ranche, the only creature that he found dead, and a piece of mule. He says the Sioux Indians have two white women and several negroes captive now. He is a good-looking and intelligent youth."

DECREASE OF CRIME IN NASHVILLE—A Nashville letter says: "For some weeks past there was a marked diminution in the amount of crime committed in this city and vicinity. This is owing, doubtless, to the more efficient police system which has been organized, and the determination to visit the heaviest penalties of the law upon offenders. Many bands of ruffians have gone to try their fortunes in other fields. In the country generally, there is a gradual return to the condition of order and security prevailing before the war. Travel through the interior is for the most part entirely safe, and business is fast resuming its normal channels. Among farmers, arrangements for the ensuing crop are being made, looking to a large yield. So far as my information extends, the freedmen have, for the most part, made arrangements of some kind for the present year, usually, where they could do so, preferred leasing or renting lands, and controlling their own labor. In the city of Nashville, they generally chosen to hire laborers to build their lands. Some localities exist where the landowners have generally preferred to enter into new agreements with their former slaves, but the impossibility of procuring other laborers has generally brought them to terms. Where the whites have hesitated to employ freedmen, the latter have usually been idle. The freedmen, therefore, look upon as an evidence that the negro will not work."

WOOL GROWERS.

New and Important Measure Proposed—Sheep Husbandry Statistics, etc.

NOBLESTOWN, ALLEGHENY CO., PA., December 27, 1865.

To the Editor of the Commercial:

SIR: Your article on the American Wool Trade (published on the 27th inst.,) is exceedingly well timed. The Wool Growers, in forming a National Association, has acted upon the same important ideas, and selected as the first subject of the trade, as in the case of the iron and steel manufacturers. There being so many more wool growers than wool manufacturers, and also than steel and iron manufacturers, the times require that the wool growers be associated so that they shall command that kind of legislation that their commodity and invested capital justly entitle them too. The wool growers being numerous, and residing in all the different States, require that they above any other important branch of agriculture or manufacture, should become conversant with the statistics, crops, plans etc., of each other, and thus be enabled to move in concert. It is impossible for the vast number of wool growers to be notified of any impending evil, or design on the interest as quickly as wool or steel manufacturers. The organization of the National Wool Growers' Association is the most important movement in sheep husbandry that has been effected within the last fifty years in our country. At the time of electing Hon. H. S. Randall, of New York, as President; W. Green, Esq., of Ohio, as Secretary, and Henry Clay Dean, of Iowa, as Treasurer. The only way its usefulness can be realized as can now be given. Throughout the twenty-five States the sheep husbandry very largely increased since 1860, both in numbers and quality. Many farmers, who have partially invested certainly authorizes us to say that the interest of sheep husbandry has been more materially neglected by the State and National Legislatures. The Pennsylvania wool growing interest is now about to petition the Legislature, believing you agree with this idea, that it will add about four millions annually to the wealth of the State. Your columns may be needed to help us in this laudable undertaking of our State, we remain yours, etc.,

GLENN & BRO.

INTERESTING FROM NEW ORLEANS.

Social Life—Cotton Intelligence.

The return of nearly all our old citizens and the numerous visits of strangers, make the city very lively and gay. It would seem as though our numerous dramatic companies could not provide amusement enough for the people. Next week opens the Italian opera with a fine company brought out by Strakosch, and our Creole theatre will open with a new company for the occasion. This engagement over, we are to have another Italian company to be brought out by Grau, and after that the French opera, which is most popular in the Franco-Hispanian part of the city, where there is most beauty and love of music also. The entertainments are very strong, as the New York city, and as a proof of the liberality manifested by the Americans for any public amusement yet provided or promised, and manifests itself in a thousand ways by balls and parties innumerable, and by liberal patronage of everything fine and beautiful amusement, the bright sun has shone down upon us during the day with genial warmth, and at night the starry heavens have shone out beautifully fair; but now the cauld blasts of winter are driving the people in where there is a fire, and the gas lights are more widely than beneath the celestial vault.

The receipts of cotton to-day is 17,564 bales. The receipts of the week have been only 11,371, a falling off of about half, as I have led you to expect. The receipts of the month of December will have amounted in the aggregate to 50,225, or nearly an average of 20,000 bales a week. The receipts of October and November were slight falling off, and now again there is what promises to be a permanent falling off, for the season. Of the receipts of the week 7,000 of the week add up 17,400 bales against 20,000 last week, and 30,000 the week before. The closing quotations are as follows:

Ordinary	40½
Good ordinary	43½
Low middling	46
Middling	46 advancing

The total exports since September 1st have been 97,000 bales, of which 47,000 have gone for Liverpool, Havre and Barcelona, whence we are constantly receiving large amounts of foreign goods. The sales reported at the close

The Daily Commercial

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondence on matters of public interest is solicited and will be thankfully received from our friends in all parts of the country, whom we request to be responsible names. Move especially whatever relates to the discovery and production of oil lands and resists oil intelligence in general, will be acceptable and is desired. Events of local interest, mechanical and agricultural results, investigations, improvements of every description, clearly and briefly described, are solicited. To secure attention, communications should be brief and entirely reliable, and should be sent as promptly as possible.

Letters concerning the business department of the newspaper or printing office should be addressed to the Business Manager. Communications designed for the paper should be addressed to the Editor.

GOVERNMENT BY FORCE.

The mere fact that force is employed to maintain government over an unwilling people affords no ground for a judgment unfavorable either to the Government or to the people. It only shows that there is a want of agreement between them, or at least a lack of that mutual confidence which insures peace, order and right to civil society. Where this confidence is wanting, the pressure of power inevitably arises on the one side or the other, either to resist Government or to enforce its claims. Hence have sprung popular revolutions for the overthrow of Governments, good and bad; and hence, too, Governments good and bad, have employed force for their maintenance, and for securing by constraint that obedience to authority which could not be trusted to voluntary compliance. Yet, as we have said, the resistance of Government on the one hand, or the enforcement of its claims on the other, determines nothing of the right or the wrong of either party.

There are, at this hour, three countries occupied by military forces for the maintenance of Government against the real or suspected hostility of the people. The circumstances of the three are very different, having little in common except the fact that they are all under a Government mainly of military force. A large section of our own country is in this condition. Having so recently emerged from a condition of direct insurrectionary war against the Government, and in circumstances entirely new and unwelcome to them, the maintenance of military force for a season is a prudential measure of the most obvious necessity. The order of society and the security of all the interests involved could scarcely be expected without it. The necessity will cease, and with it the measure, when the people become reconciled to the new condition, and voluntarily comply with the lawful requirements of the Government to which they owe allegiance. This employment of military force, however, it is but just to say, is occasioned not so much by any apprehension of direct hostility to the Government, as by the consideration of the safety and interests of the several classes or races living together in the lately rebellious States. And, hence, the presence of that force is not unwelcome to the more considerate and trusty of the Southern people, who would deprecate the speedy and entire withdrawal of it, as the occasion for outbreaks of violence and bloodshed between the people of different interests and races.

Mexico is governed by an armed force. A usurpation of authority by foreign intrigue is sustained by military power mostly foreign. The native and republican element, in part, yields a passive submission, and, in part, offers strenuous yet unavailing resistance. The withdrawal of the invading forces would ensure the downfall of the intrusive throne which they support, and the restoration of the constitutional government which they have overthrown. There force is employed for oppression and wrong. There the right is on the side of the people, while both it and they are trampled on by the iron heel of power. But then the final issue is not yet reached. Antagonist forces yet confront each other, and hope yet animates those who, for the present, submit to the force of foreign arms and usurpations.

The third country ruled by force is Rome. The singularity in this case is that the government sustained by bayonets is a hierarchy—a priestly power. For fifteen or sixteen years the people of Rome have stood in awe of French solders, and been thereby kept from laying violent hands on their priestly ruler, the Pope of Rome. During a popular revolution sixteen years ago, the Pope was driven from Rome, and only came back under the protection of foreign troops. During all this time he has been surrounded by this safe-guard—the people having aspirations and purposes, with reference to civil government and freedom, far in advance of those entertained by their spiritual and temporal ruler. The withdrawal of the French troops is contemplated with apprehension by those whom they have protected, and with delight by those whom they have oppressed.

Although we present these three cases in conjunction, we do not deem them as in any important feature parallel. Our Government seeks the good of its citizens in the South, and maintains law and right, during a temporary necessity, till order, industry and peace shall resume their wonted channels and flow on prosperously. Our Government is rescuing a part of its people from a most wanton usurpation and most grinding tyranny, and insuring to them permanent and honorable freedom. Our Government employs a force legitimate and native, whose moral influence and national sympathies run on the precise line of their military duty. Our Government employs the gentle pressure of force along with the culturing influence of persuasion—the military gradually and gently giving place, like a dissolving view, to civil administration. And as a consequence of this wise and kind employment of force, we anticipate a speedy establishment of order and a speedy return of prosperity to the Southern States, and unity of feeling and interest in all the country, and among all the people.

That the minds of persons who confound advertisements with the other matter, in the columns of the Commercial, and hold us responsible for all alike, may be disabused of their error, we will state, that we exercise no supervision over advertisements, further than that they shall not be offensive to the moral sense of the community,—we aim to keep out everything indecent, and we hope we succeed to a fair extent. Our advertising columns are open to the business man, the professional man, the politician. We have set forth, as do all advertising journals, that we will print their advertisements at certain rates.

We believe this to be the universal rule. Newspapers, like hotel-keepers, ask only that customers shall be decent and responsible. We believe the law is, that the hotel keeper cannot turn away a guest, complying with these conditions, if he can take him,—if the obligation is not equally binding on the newspaper, there certainly is in the case something of the nature of a promise, if not a contract, not to be lightly disregarded.

We did not suppose that it would ever be necessary to make this explanation,—much less to say, that the advertisements in our columns touching the Mayoralty, reflect our views or commit the paper, no more than do the numerous advertisements we print of competing railroads, manufacturers, hotels or other establishments and enterprises, in regard to which the public may be supposed to be divided.

As to the Mayoralty, we have had, and probably shall continue to have, our say in favor of Mr. McCarthy. If others wish to use our advertising columns to say something else, they can do so, at our rates, like other advertisers. No intelligent man will be at a loss to know an advertisement when he sees it along with others, nor will he read the advertisements to ascertain the views of the editor or the course of the paper on the questions of the day. It seems hardly credible that there should be any occasion for so many words on a point that we supposed required no explanation whatever. We hope this will suffice.

Police Reports.—We do not often present to the readers of the Commercial, the reports of daily proceedings in the police courts of the city. In this we indulge our own taste, and hope to gratify that of our readers, who, we presume, do not desire to have their relish of our morning visits impaired by the parade of such offensive and disgusting details.

But we occasionally refer to one item of police affairs—viz: the number of persons who are about once a week arraigned for Intoxication and the disorders consequent upon it. The extent to which intoxicating drinks are used is sufficient to draw the attention of philanthropic citizens to the subject, and to stimulate them to employ some means for arresting the evil. We have great confidence in the influence of moral means rightly directed. They were very successful once in staying the progress of intemperance. Why should they not be effective now? They are powerful in application to other vices. Why should they be inapplicable to this?

REPUBLICANS AND THE CITY ELECTION.

Although the tendency of the times is calculated to lead men to disregard somewhat the rigorous party discipline of former days, there is, we believe, no reason why Mr. McCarthy should not, on every ground relating to those principles for which they have uniformly contended, be the preference of Republicans for Mayor. As a Union man, he is unquestioned,—his record is good. He gave liberally according to his means in support of the Union cause. We have before us the record of a single subscription in the Seventh ward, where his name appears among the most liberal givers. He never qualified his professions by supporting General McClellan, as did his opponent. His qualifications for the post of Mayor will not suffer from comparison,—and we think it will be difficult for any Republican to give a good reason for withholding his support from Mr. McCarthy. That his opponent is a reputable citizen no one can deny. That, in common with our citizens, generally, he gave liberally to the patriotic cause, is readily admitted. We can perceive how, as the candidate of the Democrats, he would have claims to their support, and the support of all who, with him, opposed Mr. Lincoln, at a time when thousand of Democrats gave him their support, as the only consistent thing they, as Union men, could do. But we cannot perceive one reason why Republicans should support him. They certainly can hope to gain nothing for their principles. If they desire to turn the city over to the Democrats, it is to be confessed they are on the right track. The election having taken this shape at last, no Republican can be in doubt, as to the end to which he contributes by opposing Mr. McCarthy.

NOTES AND BEAMS.

The Legislature of Indiana has adjourned without providing for the extinction of the unjust and disgraceful clause in her organic law which prohibits negroes from entering or residing in the State. In this respect she is more open to censure than even Mississippi. The prohibition is the very essence of the slave code, and would, if true of a State lately in rebellion against the Government, be held as valid ground for not admitting it to its former position under it. It was only little more than a year ago that the State of Illinois abrogated its black code, which prohibited negroes from residing within its limits, and there are other States which yet retain in their organic law something of the same spirit, all of which goes to show that there are motes still remaining in eyes that discover beams in the eyes of others.

Navigation on the North river is closed by ice all the way from Troy to Hudson. The Albany boats and the New York and Hudson steamers stopped running five or six days ago.

The Chicago *Times* reports the arrest of a notorious ruffian, named Theodore Trumley. Among other atrocities of great magnitude, he stands charged with having stolen, under peculiarly aggravating circumstances, nearly $4,000 in greenbacks and Government bonds. He was captured with the greatest difficulty after exhibiting the utmost daring, and wounding several citizens.

The mist upon the Delaware on Tuesday was as thick as down. It wrapped Philadelphia like a blanket. The opposite side of an ordinary street was invisible. The ferry boats in the river could but creep along, and their bells were in perpetual motion up to eleven o'clock. River craft were compelled to come to anchor, and keep their bells ringing to prevent moving vessels from running into them.

In the South Carolina Legislature, the other day, Mr. John Harleston Reid, of Georgetown, offered a resolution in the House looking to the revival of the time-honored custom of arraying the Speaker in the garb of office, which is the parliamentary blue gown. It has been the custom in South Carolina from her birth as a State, and ceased only when the approach of Sherman's army endangered the safety of the robe, which, for security sake, was removed.

Some excitement has recently been created in medical circles by the discovery of a method of removing cancers and cancerous tumors without the use of the knife, but simply by the application of certain chemical agents to the parts affected. Experiments are now in progress before some medical men of high standing in Philadelphia. We must leave it to others to pay much attention as the recent discovery that "laughing gas" can successfully be administered to patients instead of ether and chloroform, during the performance of painful surgical operations.

We see it stated on the authority of a Western paper, that the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad Company's certificates, which are dealt in daily in New York, and perhaps to some extent in this city, are issued in almost unlimited amount, and that sometody must suffer in the end. It is charged that the sales reported for a large degree come directly from the office of the company.

Cost and Rent of Dwellings in Chicago.

The Chicago *Times* says: For the benefit of those out of the city, who contemplate making their homes here, and for the encouragement of any who may feel inclined to invest capital in building, we add descriptions of a few of the styles of residences which are commonly built and rented here, with their cost and rates of rent. These details and estimates are for buildings which have actually been constructed this season, and were kindly furnished by the architects, Messrs. Carter & Drake:

1. A frame cottage 22 by 40 feet on the ground and containing a parlor, dining room, kitchen, pantry, and three small bed-rooms. Such buildings have cost $1,200, and rent readily at from $10 to $40 per month, according to their location. Hundreds of such houses have been built this year, and the demand for them is increasing.

2. A two-story frame house, 22 feet by 40 on the ground, containing a parlor, dining-room, kitchen, pantry and bed-room on the first floor, and four roomy sleeping rooms above, with closets, can be built for $2,200 and, in an accessible locality, would rent for $30 per month.

3. A two-story frame house, 22 by 58, by an extension 16 feet by 22, one story high, and a brick basement under the whole. The basement includes a dining-room, kitchen, pantry, china closet, coal and vegetable cellar and hall; the main floor a hall, large double parlor, sitting-room, two bed-rooms and a bath-room, and the upper floor a hall and four sleeping-rooms with closets. This house will cost $3,500, and probably will cost when completed, $3,900; and on the line of a street railway, within twenty minutes ride of the court-house, would rent at this time for $75 per month.

4. A two-story frame building, 22 feet by 50, the lower story finished for a store, the upper for a dwelling, and containing a parlor, dining-room, kitchen, three bed-rooms, hall and closets. This building would cost $2,800, and the rent would depend very much on the business advantages of the location. As a large number of similar structures may be found in the city, especially upon the corners of streets distant from the business centre of the city.

5. A brick house with stone front, 24 feet by 36, with an extension to the rear 16 by 21, two stories and a basement. The basement contains dining room, kitchen, laundry, pantry and store room, the first floor two large parlors, family room, dressing room and hall, and the upper floor two large chambers, two bed rooms, a hall room and plenty of closets. This house is every where elegantly finished and fitted, and, built where lots are worth $75.00 per front foot, it will command a rent of $100.00 or $110.00 per month.

It must not be supposed from these statements contained in the *Times*, that buildings similar to these can be purchased for anything like the amounts which we have given as their cost. On the contrary he would be fortunate who could for an advance of fifty per cent. purchase any of them. Men are not anxious to dispose of property which brings in a return of 15, 20 or even 25 per cent. Men with money enough to lay by for the building of one or two dwellings, have made a good salary by building and selling as soon as their houses were finished. Thousands who come here willingly pay a large advance on the cost of building, in order to secure homes and avoid the expense of boarding, and while the population of the city continues to increase as it now does, the demand for, and high prices of buildings, must continue, as well as the profits of builders and the high rates of rent.

The Mexican Border.—Rumors about Gen. Grant.—A paragraph from Washington states that General Grant will sail immediately after the holidays in the flagship of the Gulf Squadron for the Rio Grande, and that Commodore Winslow has sailed in the Champion via New Orleans, leaving his flagship behind for the General. This is one of a class of paragraphs sent from there from time to time, which, taken together, are intended to create the impression that the Lieutenant General intends to go at once to the Rio Grande in order to put an end to the Mexican difficulties, and for the inliterior purpose of driving Maximilian from Mexico. We have the head of authority for saying that General Grant does not expect to leave here until he shall have progressed further in his work of reorganization of the army, and secured, if it is a peace basis. When his presence here to that end can be dispensed with, it is his intention to visit the Rio Grande in order to obtain information from personal observation what, if any further reduction is practicable, in the force under the command of General Sheridan. This proposed visit to the Southwest is of general Grant's own motion, and does not arise from suggestions from the Executive or his Cabinet.

The Vermillion Gold Fields.—The Lake Superior Gazette, in referring to the Vermillion Gold fields, says that a party of intelligent explorers report there is no computing the amount of gold-bearing pyrites in that locality, as almost every rock they broke into, in place of drift, was full of the crystals. They examined the entire coast, and where the field seemed inviting, extended their search to the distance inland; and always with the same result—plenty of minerals. They have given the whole of the gold fields a more thorough exploration than any or all of the parties who have yet visited them, and have discovered nothing in the shape of gulch mining. Their report of the gold may be summed up in the following sentence: "If the rock containing these crystals of iron pyrites as such in gold and silver as the assayer at the Philadelphia mint reports, there is no end to the wealth up there."

Boston Items.—A Boston paper says: The dividends for the past six months already announced by manufacturing companies in the New England State denote a degree of prosperity without a parallel.

The total value of goods imported into this port during the week ending 23d inst., reached $934,219 against $900,000 during the same period in 1864.

The total value of the exports from Boston for the week ending 23d, including specie, was $570,946, against $852,241 during the corresponding week last year.

The cash balance held by the United States Treasury at this port at the close of business on saturday evening, was $11,912,806 81—being an increase of $1,57,109 35, as compared with the close of the week ending the 26th.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

United States smokers consume 1,000,000,000 cigars annually.

They propose to have a new State capitol at Albany, costing $5,000,000 or $10,000,000. It will be of white marble, from Vermont quarries.

A large quantity of butter has been found secreted in a house at Chicago, supposed to belong to a man named Burnham, who last week managed to swindle several butter merchants out of $1,000 cash. Parties who suffered from the fraudulent transactions of Burnham will replevin all the butter shipped east, and it is thought that the remainder may be recovered.

Notwithstanding the war in the La Plata States, the flow of emigrants to Buenos Ayres is greater than ever, though trifling compared with the numbers coming to this country. Last year their number reached 11,000, including 5,455 Italians, 2,736 French, 1,506 Spaniards, 1,095 English, and 918 from other ports. In the first seven months of the current year 6,823 emigrants arrived—most of them Italians.

Count Berg, the Russian Governor of the town of Lodz, in Poland, has paid a great homage to the enterprise of the German settlers in that town on occasion of the opening of a new railway. On that occasion he announced that the German language had been ordered by the Emperor to be taught in the public schools, and German schools to be established, in recognition of these virtues of the German population in the spheres of commerce and industry.

The Swiss residents in America are joining in the protests of their compatriots in Switzerland against the treatment of their gifted countryman, Mr. Rykiker, at the Canton Uri. It will be remembered that Mr. R. was cruelly beaten and imprisoned for no other reason than because he held up the practical Christianity of the immediate followers of the Savior as an example to the church. The Ruti Association of Zurich, at St. Louis have published their protest in a spirited paper, which will, no doubt, receive the adhesion of their countrymen in New York and other parts of America, and contribute not a little to strengthen the opposition in Switzerland against the authorities guilty of the assault upon Mr. Rykiecky.

The State of Iowa, which sent some seventy thousand troops to the field—exceeding its quota by nearly six thousand—instead of being overrun and borne down with obligations, has a State debt of a little over three hundred thousand dollars, which she can pay off at any time. None of her counties are in debt in consequence of the war. The reason for this extraordinary exhibit is to be found in the fact that her people went out and fought instead of hiring others to do so. What a contrast this is to most of the States that are now staggering under millions of debt, incurred for the purpose of filling their quotas!

Peoria, not to be outdone by Chicago, is going to have a skating park, and a big one at that—Peoria like. It is to be kept clear of snow, to be lighted at night and have a skating house. Hot coffee and oysters and good fires will be kept, and everything will be complete.

The altar cloth at Grace church, Brooklyn (N. Y.) Heights, of crimson cloth richly embroidered and decorated with pearls and crystals, is the most splendid specimen of that sort to be seen in this country. Though rich and gay to effective, it is plain and simple.

A Memphis newspaper says that many northern men in that vicinity have leased plantations, and are engaging in the culture of cotton. As the general Government has taken upon itself the task of repairing levees along the Mississippi, a large amount of land uncultivated this year will be planted the next. Late estimates by Secretary Wells, which have declared that by the time the next year's crop is gathered, the amount on hand will have been entirely consumed, from which may be inferred that the country at large has in the cultivation of the crop the coming year. If of course realized nearly reach the amount raised just before the war, but it may prove sufficient to prevent a greater scarcity than now exists.

—According to the *Phare de la Loire*, the Viceroy of Egypt has given to the American mission at Cairo a block of houses worth 200,000f. His highness is also said to have given the missionaries free passes for the railways, and to have decided that religious journals and books shall not be subject to duty.

—John G. Heenan arrived in Boston, from England, last week, cleanly shaved, and dressed in an unostentatious manner. He is said to look older, has lost his superfluous flesh, and gained in solidity. It is supposed that Heenan, who is said to have accumulated some money, will open a public house in New York.

The Commerce of the West.

There are a few facts coming to us from the west which show that no time is to be lost by our citizens in completing all which has been done, and putting into operation all which has been devised, if we intend to make our interior track support our foreign business and our transatlantic commerce water what is domestic. We have before urged prompt action here, because if we do not improve the hour, Boston, New York, Baltimore and Charleston will have advanced so far by the time we are prepared to commence, that the labor will be greater and the reward slower and smaller. The attempt making at Erie, in this State, is proof that our western connections demand immediate attention in order to keep Philadelphia in her proper rate of growth. But more than this, an effort to unite St. Louis with Liverpool *via* New Orleans, is now actually under way, and steamships are running to New Orleans in connection with others to St. Louis. A late number of the St. Louis *Democrat* says:

"Many of our importers seem to be unaware of the fact that a regular semi-monthly line of steamers is established between Liverpool and New Orleans, and that more sailing vessels than between those ports than between Liverpool and any other port of the United States, save and except that of New York. It is worth a while, too, to be informed that steam freights are as cheap from Liverpool to New Orleans as they are to any other city, New York included, and the entire amount of transportation charges to this point higher, via New Orleans, than by any other route. St. Louis will, of course, be made a port of entry at a very early day, and in such an event New Orleans becomes the natural point for the reception of foreign merchandise. It will be found much easier, cheaper, and far more convenient for the Government, as well as individuals, to appropriate the advantages offered by commodious and regular steam packets on the Mississippi, for the transmission of goods than those offered by railway cars."

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The Chicago Cattle Yards.—We learn that the cattle yards at Chicago have been formally opened for the reception of stock. The shoots are built, the tracks are laid, the yards are inclosed, the shelters are erected, the scales are in place, the water is turned on, the platforms are free passes for the railways, and to have decided that religious journals and books shall not be subject to duty.

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PERSONAL.

—From Washington we learn that the Christmas holidays are remarkably dull, in consequence of the absence of the members of Congress, and most of the officials who could obtain a recess to spend the season at their homes. No great parties or balls took place. The President seems to devote the season to the recuperation which he so greatly needs after the harassing duties of the last six months and sees only very few visitors on business that cannot be postponed. The day was observed by an absolute cessation of business. Nearly all the denominations held religious service, which was only sparsely attended, in consequence of a slight drizzling rain and fog, which seems to exercise a depressing influence upon the subject.

—Arlington Heights still remain in the possession of the Government, but it is said that the wife of Robert E. Lee has recently written to a friend that she intends to return there, even if she is "obliged to live in the black quarters." This is indeed one of the strongest evidences of determination to reassert what she considers the rights of herself and husband to this historic property; still among the other obstacles she will probably encounter, is the fact that twelve thousand Union soldiers have been buried upon its soil.

—The delinquents have discovered a political motive for the betrothal of the Princess Helena of England with Prince Christian of Augustenburg, which has certainly been concluded with a haste and secresy unusual in royal engagements. They scout the notion of its being a love match, and say that the Prince is fifteen years older than his intended, and it is not likely she should fall in love with a man so much her senior. If they come to the point the real plan is as follows:—Prince Frederick of Augustenburg, or Frederick VIII, as he calls himself, will resign his pretensions to the succession in Schleswig-Holstein to his younger brother, who, as the husband of an English Princess, and supported by the moral influence and eventually by the material power of Great Britain, will force Prussia to relinquish her unjust claims of conquest, and acknowledge him as the independent sovereign of the duchies.

— Lieut. Col. Glencairn Burns, youngest son of the poet Robert Burns, died recently at Cheltenham, from the results of an accident. He was in his seventy-second year. In personal appearance he is said to have resembled his father. He was a good citizen, but inherited none of the sweet singer's genius.

—A weekly paper contains the statement that the Count Joannes has offered his professional services to General Robert E. Lee, to defend him in case he is tried for treason, and the General has written, "gratefully accepting them." If this report be true, the best defense that can be made for the rebel General is also will be that of insanity, which can thereby easily be established.

—Hon. Wm. H. Herndon, for twenty years law partner of Mr. Lincoln, in a recent lecture on the life and character of the late President, says: Mr. Lincoln had a deep, broad, living conscience. His conscience ruled his heart; he was always just before he was gracious. Mr. Lincoln was not always just; but his great general life was. It follows that if Mr. Lincoln had great reason and great conscience he was an honest man. His great and general life was honest; and the world will say that Abraham Lincoln was a upp-lation, "Honest Abe." Honesty was his great polar star.

—The following appointments have been made by Governor Cox, of Ohio, as members of his staff as Governor: Adjutant General, Brigadier General B. R. Cowen, of Belmont county; Quartermaster General, Lieut. Col. D. W. H. Day, of Wood county, and late Quartermaster in 23d Army Corps; Surgeon General, Dr. McDermont, of Montgomery county, and late Surgeon of U. S. Volunteers; Aides de Camp, Lieut. Col. Jas. McLarty, of Trumbull county, and late of the O. V. I., and Capt. L. Markbreit, of Hamilton county, and late of the 28th O. V. I.

—According to the *Phare de la Loire*, the Viceroy of Egypt has given to the American mission at Cairo a block of houses worth 200,000f. His highness is also said to have given the missionaries free passes for the railways, and to have decided that religious journals and books shall not be subject to duty.

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ANOTHER AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

—The following is the full text of the amendment to the Constitution of the United States, introduced into the Senate by Senator Cragin, of New Hampshire, on the day of the adjournment, 18s aim is to kill forever the heresy of State sovereignty:

Paramount sovereignty shall reside within the United States; and every citizen thereof, or of any State or Territory therein, shall be bound, and primarily owe faith, loyalty and allegiance to the United States, anything in the constitution, laws, or the ordinances of any State, to the contrary, notwithstanding; and every State heretofore in the Union, or which may hereafter be admitted as a member thereof, shall forever remain and constitute a part of the United States, and shall not, under any circumstances whatsoever, have any right to secede or withdraw therefrom.

Organization of the Legislature.—The Harrisburg correspondent of the Chambersburg *Repository* says: The organization of the Legislature excites less interest than usual, because of the fact that there will be no contest for the leading positions in either branch. Senator Fleming, of this place, will be re-elected Speaker, and George W. Hamersly Clerk; and in the House Mr. Kelly, of Washington, will be elected Speaker, and Father Benedict Clerk. The Democrats of the House will probably vote for Quiggle for Speaker, and Zeigler for Clerk.

PERFUMERY FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
TOILET ARTICLES.

Lubin's Extracts, Lowe's Extracts, Lubin's Soaps, Lubin's Toilet Waters, Night Blooming Cereus, Fancy Perfume Boxes, Cut Glass Bohemian ware, Toilet sets, Puff Boxes, French, Florida Water, Farina Cologne, Silk Satchels, Gold Hair Powder, Silver Hair Powder, Shell Hair Brushes, Ivory Hair Brushes, Toilet Mirrors, Shaving Boxes, Dressing Cases, Fine Pocket Razors, Fine Pocket Pistols, Fine Wallets, Morocco, Cigar Cases, Cigar Holders, Ladies' Purses, Watch Stands, Gold Pencils, Ladies' Companions.

Also, a large stock of Drugs, Medicines, Medicinal Liquors, Patent Medicines, Toilet Articles, &c., &c., of the very best grades at prices very low.

The Daily Commercial

MR. LINCOLN'S EARLY LIFE.

teresting Reminiscences--A Visit to one of his Humble Friends.

(Correspondence of the Chicago Republican.)

HAVANA MARION CO., ILL., December 16, happening to be in the eastern portion of this county, a few days ago, I called to see a Mrs. Hanks, formerly Mrs. Armstrong. Years ago, in this grossly State of ours was comparatively new, there came to the little village of Menard county, a tall, plain, and rather old young man, to help in the mill, tend the ferry, and make himself generally useful. After living in this capacity some time, and making friends of all who came in contact with him, at the grocery, he was appointed County Surveyor. He went to live with a farmer named Armstrong, residing in the neighborhood, being, in my estimation, the handsomest man in Mrs. Wilcox whom I went to see was the wife of this Armstrong, and the shoeless, raw-cut so much, and he liked him too. They lived in the family for a period of them, the clerk outlived every man there.

"Well, he lived with you, did he not, afterwards?"

"Yes; as soon as he got to surveying he came down here, and made it his home. I made it my business to see all the attention in this way. Armstrong used to carry chairs for him, and were great cronies. Wherever Armstrong left, Lincoln would be sure to go

The Daily Commercial

CITY MATTERS.

DEAD.—Dorothea Smith, an inmate of the county jail, who had been attacked with typhoid fever and removed to the hospital a few days ago, died yesterday. Mary Maloney, who occupied the same cell in the jail, is very ill with the same disease, and an order for her removal has been granted by the Court.

HEAVY ROBBERY.—On Wednesday night the clothing store of William Digby, Girard House, Smith field street, was entered by burglars, and a large amount of clothing, cloths, gentlemen's, etc., taken therefrom. The thieves effected an entrance through a window in the rear of the store. This is the second time this establishment has been broken into and robbed within the past few months.

FALSE PRETENSES.—Geo. W. Gallagher made an information yesterday before Alderman Strain, charging Lewis Severy with obtaining money under false pretenses. The prosecutor alleges that Severy sold him eighty barrels of apples, which he warranted to be sound, for $60, but upon examining them they were found to be decayed and unfit for use. The defendant was arrested and held to bail for a hearing this afternoon.

COUNTERFEITERS ARRESTED.—Officers Cowley and Whitney, of Erie, arrived in this city on Wednesday night, having in custody two men, named J. W. Soles and Thomas Hale, who were recently arrested in Erie, on a charge of passing counterfeit money. The amount is one thousand dollars in spurious Treasury notes and postal currency were found in their possession. The prisoners were committed to the county jail, and will be tried at the January term of the United States District Court.

SHIPMENTS OF STOCK.—The following is the number of cattle, hogs and sheep shipped from this market for the week ending on the 27th, together with their destinations:

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
Philadelphia	820	2,500	
Baltimore	18	323	
New York	522	8,303	2,700
Way Points			
Total	1,360	11,125	2,700

THE HUTCHINSON FAMILY CONCERTS.—The sweetest music ever heard in Pittsburgh comes from the Hutchinson Family. The entertainment they give is of the most pleasing character. We remember sitting in perfect delight as they sang their beautiful melodies. A large and appreciative audience assembled last night, and gave repeated evidence of appreciation of their vocal efforts. This is the testimony of everybody who goes to hear the Hutchinsons, and this is their history wherever they appear before the public. We are glad to be able to announce that they have secured Lafayette Hall for next Tuesday night, on which occasion they will give one of their highly interesting concerts. They will, undoubtedly, be greeted by an overflowing house.

Meeting of City Councils.

An adjourned meeting of the City Councils was held last evening.

SELECT COUNCIL.

Members Present—Messrs. Barckley, Brown, Coffin, Cowsin, M Clintock, M'Laughlin, M'Millan, Quinn, Reed, Thompson, White and President M'Auley.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Brown, from the Committee on Water presented a report in regard to the exchange of a portion of the city basin lot with Messrs. Kramer & Rahm, so as to make the division lines between the parties run parallel with Smithfield, so, with Ridge and Bedford streets. The Committee reported adverse to the purchase of the lot. Accompanying the report was a communication from the City Solicitor, stating that he had succeeded in making satisfactory division lines with Messrs. Kramer & Rahm. The report and communication was received and ordered to be filed.

Mr. Reed from the Committee on Streets, presented a report which was read and ordered to be filed.

The President presented a communication from Mr. Edward Aiken, in regard to the assessments for the Carson street sewer, in the Ninth ward, which was communicated was accepted and referred to the Board of Viewers upon the matter in charge.

J. W. Ewing, City Solicitor, read a detailed report of his operations during the past year, which was received and ordered to be filed in the Controller's office.

The report of the committee on City Property was presented by the chairman, Mr. McLaughlin. The report which, after being read, was accepted was the bid of Mr. John Savage, of $3,500, for the old engine house and lot of the damage by Infant Row Company, possession to be given on the 1st of January, 1866. The report was accepted and ordered to be filed.

Mr. Thompson presented an ordinance defining the boundary line between the Fifth and Sixth wards. The ordinance is quite lengthy, and considerable length, after which it was withdrawn.

Mr. Barckley presented the report of the Committee on Engines and Hose, which was read and ordered to be filed.

Mr. Thompson offered a resolution providing for the erection of a public gas lamp on the corner of Canal street and Spring alley. The resolution was subjected to the

Mr. Reed offered an ordinance providing that it should be the duty of the Mayor, on Streets to appoint or elect one or two Street Commissioners, as they may deem best, said Commissioner or Commissioners to be subject to removal at the pleasure of said committee. The yeas and nays were called on a second reading, when the ordinance was lost by a vote of seven to four.

On motion Council adjourned.

COMMON COUNCIL.

Members present: Messrs Ardray, Beck, Boggs, Davis, Deakers, Harris, Hunnicutt, King, Leonard, Mawhinney, McClelland, McQuewan, O'Neil, Reese, Relman, Snively, Tomlinson and President Steel.

The minutes of the previous regular meetings were read and approved.

Common Council then concurred in the action of the Select branch in the following business, transacted at the meeting on Monday night:

Communications from Controller, requesting applications from sundry persons, for the reduction of business tax, were received, and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. Also a resolution authorizing the transfer of $76 from No. 19 M'Mongahela Wharf to No. 7 Street; also $20 from No. 10 Allegheny Wharf to No. 7 Street.

President Steele made a few remarks highly complimentary to the members of Councils with whom he had been associated during the past four years, and particularly to the present members.

Mr. O'Neil responded to the President's remarks, paying a high compliment to the ability of the President.

Mr. Davis moved that a vote of thanks be tendered the President for the manner in which he has presided over the meetings of Councils. Adopted.

A. B. McQuewan here rose, and in a few appropriate remarks, presented the messenger, Captain Pratt, with a roll of greenbacks, the gift of the members of the Council. The venerable Captain was taken by surprise. He replied that he could only plead the poverty of language to express his feelings for the kindness thus shown him, but in the language of Generals Grant and Sherman, he would thank them from the bottom of his heart, and hoped that he might have the strength to serve them *ad infinitum*.

The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

Amusements

PITTSBURGH THEATRE.—To-night Madam Celeste takes her benefit at the "Old Drury," for which occasion it is announced that she will appear in her original character of "Maurice," in a thrilling drama by the celebrated Blanche, written expressly for the *benefeciaire*, and entitled the "Child of the Wreck." The piece not only promises extraordinary merit, but Madam Celeste is by it afforded ample scope for her rare talents as an *artiste*. She gives an unequaled panoramic display of "the wreck," "the storm," "the beach," and "the graveyard," which metropolitan critics declare must be seen to be adequately appreciated. The performances include the entertaining drama of "The Mysterious Stranger," in which Madam Celeste sustains four different characters, originally played by her.

OPERA HOUSE.—George C. Davenport, now playing a successful engagement at Miss Eberle's comfortable and well-arranged theatre, has taken the play-goers by storm. His praise is heard on every side and the most complimentary comparisons are made in his favor. Mr. Davenport is still a young actor, and not without decided ability, a fact which suggests that, as he is evidently made up of the right kind of material, he will undoubtedly improve with age like good wine. He takes his first benefit to-night, and will, no doubt, reap a golden harvest. The bill is a most attractive one, embracing the beautiful and romantic Irish drama of "Aline, the Pride of Killarney," and the roaring farce of "Barney O'Toole," in both of which Mr. Davenport sustains the prominent characters. Little Lizzie contributes to the occasion a favorite dance.

TRAVELERS' GUIDE.

Arrival and Departure of Trains.

☞ Trains leave the New Union Depot, Liberty street, between Washington and O'Hara streets.

Pennsylvania Central Railroad.

Departs.		Arrives.	
Day Express	2:30 a m	Mail	1:40 a m
Altoona Accom	7:10 a m	Fast Line	2:40 a m
Phila. & Erie Mail	8:50 a m	Phila. & Erie Mail	12:35 p m
Mail Accom	11:00 a m	Baltimore Exp'r's	1:20 p m
Phila. Express	2:50 p m	Phila. Express	2:40 p m
Fast Line	10:00 p m	Johnstown Accom	8:00 a m
Johnstown Accom	4:45 p m	1st Wall Station	6:55 a m
1st Wall Station	6:30 p m	Mail	10:45 a m
Mail	10:45 a m	"	1:50 p m
"	6:40 p m	Penn Accom. No. 1	6:40 p m
Penn Accom. No. 1	3:00 p m	Penn	6:25 a m
Penn " 2	10:30 p m	Penn Accom.	
		and Emigrant	10:50 p m

The church train leaves Wall's Station every Sunday at 8:05 a. m.; returning, leaves Pittsburgh at 12:30 p. m.

Pittsburgh, Columbus & Cincinnati R. R.

Departs.		Arrives.	
Express	2:30 a m	Express	2:30 a m
Mail	8:00 "	Mail	3:10 p m
Express	2:40 p m	Express	8:00 p m
Mail	7:00 a m	Mail	9:00 p m
Chartie & Erie	6:10 a m	Chartie & Erie	9:30 p m

New Brighton Accommodation leaves Allegheny depot at 9:00 a. m., 11:50 a. m., 4:30 p. m., and 8:40 p. m. Rochester 6:05 a. m. New Castle, 3:50 p. m.; Economy, 10:30 p. m.; Wellsville, 3:50 p. m.

Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Wheeling.

Departs.		Arrives.	
Express	2:30 a m	Express	11:15 a m
Express	2:30 p m	Express	8:30 p m
Mail	6:00 a m	Mail	3:30 p m
		Departs	Arrives.
Express for Wheeling		2:30 p m	11:15 a m
"		8:05 p m	2:30 p m
Mail,		6:00 a m	9:30 p m

Pittsburgh and Connellsville.

Departs.		Arrives.	
Mail	7:15 a m	Mail	6:00 p m
Express	3:00 p m	Express	10:00 a m
1st Mc Keesport	11:00 a m	1st Braddock's	6:30 a m
2d "	6:15 p m	2d "	2:00 p m
1st Braddock's	7:00 a m	1st Braddock's	8:30 a m
2d "	4:10 p m	2d "	5:45 p m

Allegheny Valley Railroad.

Leaves.		Arrives.	
Mail	6:45 a m	Express	10:00 a m
Express	3:30 p m	Mail	6:10 p m
Accommodation	4:30 p m	Accommodation	9:00 p m

Parkersburg Steamers

DEPART AS FOLLOWS:

Monday	11 A. M. ..... Bayard.
Wednesday	11 A. M. ..... Forest City.
Thursday	11 A. M. ..... Bayard.
Saturday	11 A. M. ..... Forest City.

Zanesville Semi-Weekly Line.

Tuesday	4 P. M. ..... Emma Graham.
Saturday	4 P. M. ..... Julia.

Monongahela River Packets.

BROWNSVILLE AND GENEVA.

Morning	8 A. M. Evening ..... 6 P. M.

MCKEESPORT AND ELIZABETH.

Leaves daily	3 P. M. ..... James Rees

FINANCE AND TRADE.

BANKERS' AND BROKERS' BOARD.

S. MCCLEAN, JR., Pres't. J. M. TIERNAN, V. P.
S. S. BRYAN, (STOCK AND REAL ESTATE BROKER,) SECRETARY.

Meets Daily at 10½ O'Clock, A. M.

TRANSACTIONS DEC. 28, 1865, AT THE BOARD.

	Bid.	Asked
United States 6's 1881	107	00
United States 5-20s	102	50
United States 7 3-10s	97	75
United States Certificates	99	00
Gold	1 44	
Allegheny County 5's	78	00
Pittsburgh City 6's		103 50
Pittsburgh Ft. Wayne and Chicago R. R. 1st	101	00
Allegheny Valley R. R. 7's		103 50
Connellsville Railroad 6's	80	00
Butler County 6's		88 25
Monongahela Insurance Co.		87 00
Allegheny Valley R. R.	9	12 00
Connellsville R. R. (interest)	9	50
Citizens' National Bank		83 00
Exchange National Bank	81	50 82 00
Fourth National Bank		115 00
M. and M. National Bank	60	00
Third National Bank	121	50
Columbia Oil Company		27 50
Forest Oil Central		25
Diamond Oil	33	50
Steub. and Jed B. R. 1st mort. bonds		28
Steub. and Jed B. R. 1st mort. bonds	88	00
Cuba Run Oil		10
Union Line	95	19

THURSDAY, December 28—P. M.

The end of the old year is so near, when settlements are made, that business becomes narrowed down to an ordinary supply of the local requirements, and the demand for money is decreased, which renders the money market less active. But as the prospect for a heavier decided trade to settle with the new year is very generally entertained, capitalists are willing to have a short period of inactivity, in order to recruit their finances so that they may be prepared for anything offering that is promising.

The subject of the finances, and the future prospect of monetary affairs, give rise to considerable discussion among business men, and the opinion is entertained that money is likely to be more plentiful by a little further arrangement of the volume of the currency in bank bills, if not in legal tenders; and the other side, on the contrary, argue that it will no doubt be made scarcer by a contraction of the present paper issues. These conflicting opinions are of course mere surmises, for no one can foretell with certainty what the coming events are to be in that regard, and all parties will have to wait for legislative action. The tariff bill, however, appears to be that the currency will not be reduced until the other floating liabilities are funded and out of the way.

The list at the Board this morning embraces more variety than usual. Many of the cheap and neglected stocks are mentioned. Even Union Lubric and Stella are named. It was thought that they were irrefrievably gone, but some persons had the courage to make a bid of five cents a share for them! Pittsburgh there were some transactions to day at 75 to 75½. Bank shares are in good demand, but dividend time is too near for holders to sell. Citizens' National a small lot sold at 83.

—In New York to-day the most noticeable change is the heavy decline on Fishkin Creek, which our telegraph report, in another column, will more particularly indicate.

—The following comparative statement shows the average condition of the leading items of the Philadelphia banks for the past and previous week:

	Last Week.	This Week.
Capital	$16,000,000	$16,000,000
Loans	45,988,793	45,959,241 Inc. $29,552
Specie	7,240	326,524 Inc. 319,284
Legal tenders	16,567,291	16,666,740 Inc. 99,449
Deposits	36,277,336	34,421,227 Dec. 1,856,109
Circulation	7,141,589	7,156,258 Inc. 14,669

There was a very keen bank movement last week, the greatest change in any item was $1,856 decrease in deposits, and $99,449 increase in legal tender notes. The loans and circulation each increased slightly, and the specie average was $319,284 lower. The clearings for the week were $12,610,351, and the balances, $2,780,266.

—Copper Stocks in Boston were in good request and very firmly held, while prices of the better class of stocks generally advanced and closed strong. We note the following variations: Franklin advanced 1 Hancock ½; Copper Falls ½; Minnesota ½; Pewabic ¼; Minnesota ½; Huron ½; Quincy ½; Bay State ¼; Copper Falls, Bonanza, Pewabic and Hancock and Bay State were the most active, and large sales were made.

The following are the closing quotations for the principal Mining Shares; Albany and Boston is ordered, 3; asked; Bay State 11½@11¾; Central 4; offered, Concord 3; 4; Copper Falls 26@26½; Franklin 41@41½; Hancock 14@14½; Huron 57@58; Isle Royal 18@19; Kenard 3@3½; Minnesota 50@50½; Pewabic 75 asked; offered Pewabic 75@76; Phœnix 15 offered; Pittsburgh 66@68; Quincy 83@86; Rockland 3@3½; Superior 29@29½; Wintrop 13@13½.

—The following explanation of a defunct banker is, in Cincinnati shows to what extent the banking business can be carried on on "borrowed capital," or, in other words, on the deposits of those who take no pains to ascertain the standing of the institution which they trust their funds. The banker's name was R. Ellis Jr. and in the course of his examination he said:

I have been in the banking business since December, 1863, and commenced with between seven and eleven thousand dollars borrowed capital. I had no money of my own invested in the business; the "borrowed capital" was in the nature of deposits by several parties. I do not know what amount of capital I have invested in the business in 1865, or from that time to 1863. I do not know whether my assets were greater than my liabilities; my liabilities were $60 and I believe I balanced my own books; the bookkeeper did not. I have worked for a salary of $25 per week, and except for special accounts; he never informed me of the condition of my affairs. I made a full schedule of my affairs in September 1865, by the excessive losses I had sustained in the gold and stock operations. The amount of my losses in my gold and stock operations was between three and four hundred thousand dollars; in my opinion I have lost nearly that sum as well as my own. I do not know how much of my own money I used in these operations.

Philadelphia Stock Market.

[From Work, McCouch & Co., Stock and Exchange Brokers.]

PHILADELPHIA, December 28.—St. Nicholas, 58; Maple Shade, 9½; Curtin, 1½; Dalzell, 21 16; Caldwell, 3; Mechanick, 4; Kensington, 1; Bear Run, 3; and Cherry Run, 8; Corn Planter, 3; Sugar Creek, 1½; Ericsson, 2; Kings, 4½; Union Oil, 1; Philadelphia, Lancaster and Cherry Run, 5; Ocean, 17; Maltany Coal, 7.

New York Wool Market.

Has been in limited request, since our last, yet has had very liberal inquiries from Eastern buyers, who have been eager to sell, unless at full rates, especially for desirable lots, of which the available supply is moderate.

Current Prices for Domestic Wool in New York, Dec. 26, 1865.

	Cents ₰ lb.
NEW YORK, MICHIGAN, VERMONT.	
Choice Saxony fleece	65@70
Saxony fleece	58@60
Full blood fleece, }	56@58
¾ and ½ blood fleece, }	
Native pulled fleece, }	50@55
Common fleece, }	
OHIO, PENNSYLVANIA AND VIRGINIA.	
Choice Saxony fleece	75@80
Saxony fleece	
Full blood fleece, }	66@72
¾ and ½ blood fleece, }	
Native pulled fleece, }	55@62
Common fleece, }	
ILLINOIS, WISCONSIN, IOWA AND INDIANA.	
Saxony fleece, }	57@60
Full blood fleece, }	
¾ and ½ blood fleece, }	50@55
Native pulled fleece, }	
Common fleece, }	
KENTUCKY, MISSOURI AND TENNESSEE.	
Washed fleece	46@50
Unwashed fleece	35@40
Southern unwashed fleece	30@35
Southern unwashed fleece burry	25@27
TEXAS.	
Unwashed fleece	32@40
Unwashed fleece burry	25@27
CALIFORNIA.	
Washed fleece	46@62
Unwashed fleece, fine, }	40@45
Unwashed fleece, medium, }	
Unwashed fleece, coarse	29@30
Unwashed burry	19@22
Pulled fine	46@50
Pulled medium	40@45
Pulled common	32@36
PULLED WOOL.	
New York City, extra	60@65
New York City, superfine	55@60
New York City, No. 1	42@47
New York City, No. 2	34@37
Country, fine	46@50
Country, superfine	40@45
Country, No. 1	34@37
Country, No. 2	18@20
Lambs	50@60
Western fine pulled	46@50
Southern fine pulled	40@45
Southern pulled	30@35
Tub washed	60@65

Pork Packing in Chicago.

The following table shows the weekly receipts of live hogs from Oct. 1 to date for three years:

WEEKLY RECEIPTS OF LIVE HOGS AT CHICAGO FOR THREE SEASONS.

Week ending—	1865.	1864.	1863.
Oct. 7	23,915	29,000	27,000
" 14	20,000	32,000	31,000
" 21	17,917	32,231	38,500
" 28	22,000	40,000	42,000
Nov. 4	32,768	51,442	41,000
" 11	17,083	50,708	70,042
" 18	20,000	61,000	60,000
" 25	28,948	96,445	105,800
Dec. 2	26,000	94,000	105,000
" 9	22,000	90,000	100,000
" 16	19,616	106,799	88,966
" 23	25,278	88,019	61,925
Total live	297,049	782,410	812,931
Add dressed	25,051	59,062	79,000
Total live and dressed	258,000	841,472	902,919

The following table shows the weekly shipments of live hogs from Oct. 1 to date for three years:

SHIPMENTS OF LIVE HOGS FOR THREE YEARS.

Week ending	1865.	1864.	1863.
October 7	18,826	8,020	23,329
" 14	20,756	16,000	26,581
" 21	15,431	18,554	28,689
" 28	17,269	12,491	22,447
Nov. 4	11,460	20,016	17,758
" 11	17,646	17,350	14,999
" 18	17,661	10,923	14,150
" 25	10,706	11,715	20,501
Dec. 2	16,107	16,840	15,917
" 9	4,116	16,448	24,801
" 16	10,652	8,281	14,341
" 23	10,000	9,219	11,256
Total live	147,101	183,218	256,719
Add dressed	3,578	8,767	17,989
Total	150,682	186,980	274,288

Deducting the shipments from the receipts, the balance should indicate about the number left over for packing purposes:

Receipts from October 1st to date	258,000
Shipments	150,682
Balance left for packers	107,318
" " 1864	641,492
" " 1863	646,631

This estimate of 107,318 head is altogether too large. The packing season did not commence until very late, and up to date the amount packed is estimated by competent authorities, at about 65,000 to 67,000 head—a falling off of over half a million in comparison with the amount packed at this date last season.

Cincinnati Hog Statistics.

December 27.—There was an active demand to-day for the dressed article, and prices ruled from 9½ to 10 cents per cent.; and the tendency at the close was still upward. The packers who have dressed largely have the confidence in the reports in circulation in regard to a short crop, are becoming nervous over the light arrivals, and there is an increased disposition to operate. Sales, that were offered to day at $10@11 25, net, were taken, and I purchaser could not have been found at the close below the outside rate, and some refused to sell at less than $11 50. Receipts to-day were nineteen hundred. The receipts for the past three days were only 6,500. Lead, exclusive of those driven in. The transactions, so far as made public, were as follows:

200 head, averaging 220 pounds, at	$11 00
100 " 225 "	11 25
250 " 225 "	11 25
100 " 225 "	11 25
100 " 235 "	11 25

The editor of the *Price Current* has kindly furnished us with the advance slip, from which we take the following:

The receipts of Hogs at this place during the week, the season, and comparatively for same previous seasons, were as follows:

By railway	23,005
By river	2,219
From Kentucky	2,100
Driven in	409
Total for the week	28,883
Previously reported	185,942
Total for the season	190,925
Same time in 1864	402,427
" 1863	452,427
" 1862	346,511
" 1861	340,811
" 1860	304,126
" 1859	446,878
" 1858	301,598
" 1857	328,855
" 1856	253,840
" 1855	253,848
" 1854	275,964
" 1853	260,000
" 1852	311,193
" 1851	280,228

Oil Receipts per Allegheny River.

Horner	229	J. Baxter	205
J. Wilkins	264	Fisher Bro	1,245
Total			1,743

Oil Receipts per A. V. R. R.

GOING EAST.

Standard Oil Company, 376 barrels refined, for Philadelphia.

Forbes, Brother & Co., 124 barrels refined, for Philadelphia.

Globe Oil Company, 113 barrels refined, for Philadelphia.

Herman, Koehler & Co., 81 barrels refined, for Philadelphia.

Excelsior Oil Company, 56 barrels refined, for Philadelphia.

Hay & Clark Kirkpatrick & Co., 51 barrels refined, for Baltimore.

W. Mackeown & Bro., 95 barrels refined, for Harrisburg.

Another Run of Coal.

Below will be found a detailed statement of coal to the lower ports. Although not one of the largest, it fosts up to a good round figure, viz.: 1,235,000 bushels. From appearances it would seem that our neighbors in the Southern coal regions will supply the lower ports with coal, or if they don't like that name, they can call it Youghiogheny—it makes no difference so long as we procure the greenbacks.

TO CINCINNATI.

Niagara	7 barges	70,000
Mary Dunlevy	7 barges	70,000
Gen. Farrow	3 boats	40,000
Lake Erie No. 3	10 barges	100,000
Fleetwood	10 boats	130,000
Total	37	410,000

TO LOUISVILLE.

J. S. Neal	5 barges	65,000
Ben. Franklin	7 barges	70,000
Bigelow	7 barges	70,000
Capt. Wilson	3 boats	30,000
R. Fulton	3 boats	70,000
Venture	2 pair boats	35,000
6	32	415,000

FOR NEW ORLEANS.

Lioness	10 boats and barges	140,000
Coal Hill	5 boats	100,000
2	15	140,000
Floating Boats	7	147,000
1	7	367,000

RECAPITULATION.

To Cincinnati	5 tow boats, 37 barges	410,000
To Louisville	6 tow boats, 32 barges	415,000
To New Orleans	2 tow boats, 15 barges and boats	140,000
To New Orleans	Floating boats, 7	147,000
	13 91	1,215,000

Philadelphia Provision Market.

December 27.—Provisions of all kind come in slowly, and the demand for the hog product is limited at about previous rates. Dressed hogs sell at 12@12½ the 100 lbs. as to lots. Mess pork is offered at $22@23, and extra beef at $18@18 50 bbl for western and city packed, and the sales were only in a retail way at these rates. Of Bacon and green meats the sales were limited to the latter, mostly pickled hams, at 19@20c, and shoulders at 13@14c p lb. Lard is quiet, and the sales small at 18@19c for tierce, and kegs are held at 20@21c for retail sales. Butter moves off as wanted at 33@35c for fair to prime packed and roll, and 40@45c for choice, the latter for Goshen. Cheese is unchanged, selling within the range of 16@18c for good and prime New York State. Eggs are worth 40@45c ₰ doz.

Baltimore Provision Market.

December 27.—Provisions—The provision market here continues very quiet, there being in fact little or no business to report, but we still note the fact that within the last few days has become very active, and we may therefore look for more movement in that line very soon. There is some little bacon selling, but we hear of no transactions in anything like large lots. Sugar cured hams are 21c for old, 19@19½c for new; bacon shoulders 12½c; sides at 16c for new, and do hams at 22@23c for new. Mess pork is held at $26 nominal. Lard is quiet and firm, and now mess pork at $30 00@30 50 per barrel; butchers' is nothing doing in either article. Western lard sells at the close to the outside rate, and some refined to sell at less than 21c. No change takes place in tierces, the range is 19@19½, cents. The receipts for the past three days were only 6,500 head, exclusive of those driven in. The transactions, so far as made public, were as follows:

200 head, averaging 220 pounds, at	$11 00
100 " 225 "	11 25
250 " 225 "	11 25
100 " 225 "	11 25
100 " 235 "	11 25

Philadelphia Oil Market.

December 27.—Oils—The sales of most kinds are in a retail way only, and without change in prices. Fish or Lard Oil. Linseed is dull and selling slowly at $1 70@1 75 for city pressed, and the demand limited, except for December delivery, which is wanted at 1 65@1 67½ for prime. Crude Petroleum is in moderate request, and steady for crude. Free oil is worth 50@55c. For future delivery there is little or no demand.

Philadelphia Iron Market.

December 27.—Iron is firm, with very little Pig metal offering or selling, for this market. We quote Forge at $46@49, and Foundry at $50@52 ₰ ton, with a small business reported. Bar iron is quiet and firm. Scotch Pig is quiet. In Manufactured Iron there is rather more doing in Bars and Rails, without change in prices.

Baltimore Coffee Market.

December 27.—Coffee—Rio is nominal but the market is still steady and firm. We note sales to-day of 200 bags prime Rio at 20@20½c, and we continue to quote fair at 19@19½c and full fair to prime at 20@20½c, and for good 20½@20¾c gold for prime; Laguayra at 21@ 21½c currency; and Java at 40@45c currency. Jobbing here in first and second hands is about 1½@2c higher.

Butter at Cincinnati.

December 27.—The demand for all grades has fallen off, though sales are about equal to the receipts, and prices are unchanged. We quote prime to choice Central Ohio roll 33@35c, with sales of extra table in small packages at 40@45c. Qualities below prime are neglected and difficult to sell. They can be bought at 20@ to 30c.

New York Copper Market.

December 27.—New smelting is steady at 50c, and yellow metal, 50c cash. Ingots remain firm, though the business has been small; the sales embrace 125,000 lbs at 42@43c; and 75,000 lbs Baltimore at 41½c cash.

Shipments of Flour and Grain at Toledo.

For the week ending December 23d:

	Shipments Past week.	Since Jan. 1.	Receipts. Past week.
Flour, bbls	5,723	187,729	9,074
Wheat, bush	18,540	972,803	28,441
Corn, bush	7,520	431,561	2,140
Oats, bush	5,800	441,940	600
Rye, bush	1,711	27,711	275
Barley, bush	150	3,967	232

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

New York Money and Stock Market.

NEW YORK, December 28.—Money easier at 6@7 ₰ cent. Sterling dull at 108¾. Gold a shade firmer, opening 1½ and closing 1¼ premium. Exchange weak. Freights to Liverpool dull and drooping. Cotton 5-32 c. Corn 5-32 c. Flour 25c. Wheat 1c. Pork 50c. Lard 1c. Stocks generally lower. Chicago and Rock Island, 106½; Pittsburgh, 75½; Fort Wayne, 100½; Illinois Central, 118; North Western, 39; do. preferred, 59½; Reading, 96½; Michigan Southern, 79½; Cleveland and Pittsburgh, 76; Cleveland and Toledo, 118; Rock Island, 106½; Northwestern, 37½; Northwestern preferred, 61; Fort Wayne, 100½. The market at the close seemed weak. The following were the closing prices at 4:30 P. M.: Ohio Certificates, 95¾; New York Central, 86¾; Erie, 93½; Hudson River, 108; Reading, 100½; Michigan Southern, 79½; Cleveland and Pittsburgh, 76; Cleveland and Toledo, 118; Rock Island, 106½; Northwestern, 37½; Northwestern preferred, 61; Fort Wayne, 100½. It is said that the Bulls have taken two millions of five per cent. gold-bearing bonds of Massachusetts, at about 97 per cent.

GOLD

Is active with a strong feeling. After slight fluctuations for a rise, it closed at 1 44¼.

GOVERNMENTS.

The supply of Government securities on sale is generally small, while the demand is fair. Prices are steady and well sustained. Large orders have been received from the country in the past two days.

PETROLEUM STOCKS.

There is some activity in Bennehoff Run and Pithole Creek, but the balance of Petroleum stocks are quiet. Bennehoff Run, is 60; Brady, 6½; Central, 29@30; Free National, 50; Mt. Vernon, 35; Oil Creek, 1.75; Pithole Creek, 15 @ 30; United States, 2.

PETROLEUM.

Is dull at the decline. One thousand barrels Crude sold at 45c, and three thousand barrels Refined in bond at 85c.

DRY GOODS.

The following are the quotations from the Dry Goods Exchange: Brown Sheetings—Appleton A, 42½c; Reservoir, 39c; Pittsfield A, 39c; Pittsfield Shirtings—Bates B B, 35c; Columbia A, 37½c; Raymonds, 40c; Merrimac, 37½c; Stark A, 42½c; Boott C, 28½c; Lawrence, 32c; Briggs, 34c; Freeland, 29½c; Dobbins' Long Cloth, 39c; Dwight Anchor, 39c; Lonsdale, 39c; Pepperell, 36c; Winthrop, 36c; Corset Jeans—Lonsdale, 30c; New market, 26c; Canton Flannels—Lasell, 40c; Amoskeag, 36c; Ballou & Co's, 34c; Brookfield, 32½c; Cassimeres—New York Mills, 88c; Hoop Skirts—Ladies' Delight, 2 hoop, 75c; 3 hoop, 90c; 4 hoop, $1 05; 5 hoop, $1 20; 6 hoop, $1 40; 7 hoop, $1 60; 8 hoop, $1 80; 9 hoop, $2 00; 10 hoop, $2 25; 11 hoop, $2 50; 12 hoop, $2 75; 13 hoop, $3 00; 14 hoop, $3 25; 15 hoop, $3 50; 16 hoop, $3 75; 17 hoop, $4 00; 18 hoop, $4 25; 19 hoop, $4 50; 20 hoop, $4 75; 21 hoop, $5 00; 22 hoop, $5 25; 23 hoop, $5 50; 24 hoop, $5 75; 25 hoop, $6 00; 26 hoop, $6 25; 27 hoop, $6 50; 28 hoop, $6 75; 29 hoop, $7 00; 30 hoop, $7 25; 31 hoop, $7 50; 32 hoop, $7 75; 33 hoop, $8 00; 34 hoop, $8 25; 35 hoop, $8 50; 36 hoop, $8 75; 37 hoop, $9 00; 38 hoop, $9 25; 39 hoop, $9 50; 40 hoop, $9 75; 41 hoop, $10 00; 42 hoop, $10 25; 43 hoop, $10 50; 44 hoop, $10 75; 45 hoop, $11 00; 46 hoop, $11 25; 47 hoop, $11 50; 48 hoop, $11 75; 49 hoop, $12 00; 50 hoop, $12 25; 51 hoop, $12 50; 52 hoop, $12 75; 53 hoop, $13 00; 54 hoop, $13 25; 55 hoop, $13 50; 56 hoop, $13 75; 57 hoop, $14 00; 58 hoop, $14 25; 59 hoop, $14 50; 60 hoop, $14 75; 61 hoop, $15 00; 62 hoop, $15 25; 63 hoop, $15 50; 64 hoop, $15 75; 65 hoop, $16 00; 66 hoop, $16 25; 67 hoop, $16 50; 68 hoop, $16 75; 69 hoop, $17 00; 70 hoop, $17 25; 71 hoop, $17 50; 72 hoop, $17 75; 73 hoop, $18 00; 74 hoop, $18 25; 75 hoop, $18 50; 76 hoop, $18 75; 77 hoop, $19 00; 78 hoop, $19 25; 79 hoop, $19 50; 80 hoop, $19 75; 81 hoop, $20 00; 82 hoop, $20 25; 83 hoop, $20 50; 84 hoop, $20 75; 85 hoop, $21 00; 86 hoop, $21 25; 87 hoop, $21 50; 88 hoop, $21 75; 89 hoop, $22 00; 90 hoop, $22 25; 91 hoop, $22 50; 92 hoop, $22 75; 93 hoop, $23 00; 94 hoop, $23 25; 95 hoop, $23 50; 96 hoop, $23 75; 97 hoop, $24 00; 98 hoop, $24 25; 99 hoop, $24 50; 100 hoop, $24 75; 101 hoop, $25 00; 102 hoop, $25 25; 103 hoop, $25 50; 104 hoop, $25 75; 105 hoop, $26 00; 106 hoop, $26 25; 107 hoop, $26 50; 108 hoop, $26 75; 109 hoop, $27 00; 110 hoop, $27 25; 111 hoop, $27 50; 112 hoop, $27 75; 113 hoop, $28 00; 114 hoop, $28 25; 115 hoop, $28 50; 116 hoop, $28 75; 117 hoop, $29 00; 118 hoop, $29 25; 119 hoop, $29 50; 120 hoop, $29 75; 121 hoop, $30 00; 122 hoop, $30 25; 123 hoop, $30 50; 124 hoop, $30 75; 125 hoop, $31 00; 126 hoop, $31 25; 127 hoop, $31 50; 128 hoop, $31 75; 129 hoop, $32 00; 130